<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-14 remain pending in the application. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-14 will be amended. Entry of the present amendment, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the pending application in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1, 5, 13 and 14 because "parallelepiped" was misspelled. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 5, 13 and 14 will be amended to correct the spelling of "parallelepiped". Thus, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection.

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C.§101, asserting that they are disembodied, merely algorithmic in nature, and not limited to being performed by a computer or a machine. The Examiner stated that the rejection could be overcome by amending the method claims (i.e., claims 1-12) to recite "a computer implemented method", amending the apparatus claim (i.e., claim 14) to recite "a computing apparatus", and amending claim 13 to recite "a computer program product embodied on a computer-readable medium." Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-14 will be amended, in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Applicants thank the Examiner for suggesting how to amend the claims to overcome the rejection and place the claims in condition for allowance. However, Applicants submit that the amendment to the claims is merely to expedite issuance of a Notice of

Allowance, and should not be viewed as a concession to the propriety of the rejection.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants recognize that the current status of the application is afterFinal. However, Applicants respectfully submit that entry of the present
amendment is proper under the current circumstances. Applicants submit that
no new issues are raised by the amendments to the claims, as the claim
amendments correspond to the suggestions by the Examiner as to how to amend
the claims to place the claims in condition for allowance.

Entry and consideration of the present amendment, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present invention in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so.

Should an extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Masayasu WAKABAYASHI et al.

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